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1 seven percent as applied to people who had x-rays submitted.
2 With respect to people who did not have -- who had no x-rays
3 but also know -- they didn't state that they relied on x-rays.
4 That they actually pathology as an example or a CT. Would they
5 have fallen in the category of no x-rays but not relied upon x-
6 rays?

7 MR. FINCH: Objection. Lack of foundation. He's
8 asking this witness to testify what Dr. Florence did.

9 MR. BERNICK: Well, I'll ask him to assume that
10 that's exactly what Dr. Florence did.

11 Q I want you to assume, Dr. Weill, that Dr. Florence not
12 only applied the seven percent to people who had submitted x-
13 rays but also let pass through his filter people who did not
14 have x-rays but had not said that they were relying on x-rays.
15 I want you to assume that seven percent of those also were
16 allowed in. If that approach had been taken, would that have
17 provided room in the estimate for people who relied upon
18 pathology or other technology?

19 MR. FINCH: Objection. Lack of foundation. This
20 isn't -- he's offering -- he's asking him to opine on what
21 people should be included or not included in the estimate not
22 on what this witness did.

23 MR. BERNICK: Well, I'll put it more precisely.

24 Q Would it have been appropriate if we wanted to capture
25 company -- Grace wanted to capture people who relied upon

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1 pathology or other technology that is not x-rays and did not
2 say that they're relying on x-rays -- would using seven percent
3 across the board have been an appropriate way, from your point
4 of view as a doctor, to let those people pass through the
5 filter?

6 A Yes, I think it would --

7 MR. FINCH: Objection. Lack of foundation.
8 Argumentative. He is asking this witness to opine on what
9 people may or may not use to prove their claims, whether it's
10 pathology or not. He's also asking this witness to basically
11 walk through a hypothetical that he had nothing to do with.

12 MR. BERNICK: No, this doctor is being asked -- he is
13 asked whether there are other technologies that are available.
14 He said that there were. I'm now asking if we want to have
15 people who do have evidence from pathology or from CTs -- if we
16 want them still to qualify, whether it would be appropriate to
17 have a -- them pass through in the same way as people who
18 would've qualified with a radiograph. That's all that I'm
19 asking.

20 MR. FINCH: Objection. Lack of expertise to answer
21 that question.

22 THE COURT: I think that's the problem. I'm not
23 certain where this witness' qualifications come in that
24 estimation field.

25 MR. BERNICK: Okay. I'm not asking him to sign off

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1 on the seven percent. I'm asking whether it would be
2 appropriate if we wanted from a medical point of view to have
3 people pass a medical screening if they had appropriate
4 pathology evidence or an appropriate alternative technology
5 like CT, would it have been appropriate to make provisions for
6 them to pass through the screen if we wanted the screen to be
7 medically sound.

8 THE COURT: Yes, but you're asking him specifically
9 about the seven percent --

10 MR. BERNICK: Not -- forget --

11 THE COURT: -- and I think that's the issue.

12 MR. BERNICK: Forget the seven percent.

13 THE COURT: Then restate the question.

14 MR. BERNICK: Yeah, I'll restate the question.

15 BY MR. BERNICK:

16 Q Would it have been appropriate if we wanted to have the
17 screen be medically sound to make room in the screen for people
18 who had other evidence in the form of either (a) pathology or
19 (b) an appropriate CT scan?

20 A Yes.

21 MR. BERNICK: That's my only real question, Your
22 Honor.

23 (Pause)

24 Q If Dr. Florence's estimate incorporated the seven percent
25 number from Dr. Henry's work and applied that to people who had

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1 submitted x-rays, and if he also made a provision for people
2 who had evidence through pathology or through CT, would that
3 approach be consistent or inconsistent with your own view of
4 what constitutes medically reliable evidence of asbestos
5 relation for lung cancer?

6 MR. FINCH: Objection. Lack of expertise. Lack of
7 foundation. Misstates what Dr. Florence actually did.

8 MR. BERNICK: Well, there -- first of all, there can
9 be no expertise, because we qualified him to be expert in
10 precisely this area. He's already testified for an hour in
11 this area. All we're doing is creating a nexus between what he
12 has testified to and what I'm asking him to assume is Dr.
13 Florence's approach.

14 THE COURT: Well, you said if Dr. Florence
15 incorporated the seven percent estimate from the x-rays --

16 MR. BERNICK: Right.

17 THE COURT: -- and also made provision for people who
18 had evidence of pathology or CT scans but not necessarily the
19 seven percent, as I understand, is that consistent with this
20 witness' view of what's medically reliable evidence of lung
21 cancer?

22 MR. BERNICK: What's medically reliable evidence of
23 the link between --

24 THE COURT: Oh, the link.

25 MR. BERNICK: -- lung cancer and asbestos exposure.

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1 THE COURT: I'm sorry. And what's the -- and the
2 objection is that this witness isn't qualified to answer that
3 question?

4 MR. FINCH: No, the objection is that it's -- it
5 misstates what Dr. Florence did, and he has a lack of
6 foundation to offer any opinions about whether what Dr.
7 Florence did is medically appropriate.

8 MR. BERNICK: That is an entirely frivolous
9 objection. Every day of the week you have testimony that's
10 elicited from an expert on the assumption of another expert
11 coming in and establishing something. That's exactly what I'm
12 doing.

13 THE COURT: I -- that objection is overruled. I
14 think this witness is qualified to offer that opinion.

15 BY MR. BERNICK:

16 Q Consistent or inconsistent?

17 A Consistent.

18 Q Thank you. Let's talk about other cancer. Have you
19 looked to see whether there is -- hang on for half a second.

20 MR. BERNICK: I'm sorry, Your Honor.

21 (Pause)

22 MR. BERNICK: In the interest of time, I can move on
23 to the last topic, Your Honor.

24 Q Let's talk a little bit about the diagnostic criteria for
25 asbestosis. I think you testified previously, Dr. Weill, that

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1 there are criteria, and they're set out as recommendations by
2 the American Thoracic Society?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q Okay. I want to show you demonstrative GG-2151 and ask
5 you whether these are the elements that are either recommended
6 or recognized by the American Thoracic Society as important to
7 a differential diagnosis of non-malignant disease from
8 asbestos.

9 A This is a fair depiction of that.

10 Q Okay, so we have -- and again in the interest of time,
11 those that are recommended by the ATS include exposure history
12 and imaging, those that are recognized as having importance, or
13 physical exam, medical history and lung function tests?

14 A yes.

15 Q And then based upon that, the doctor is supposed to
16 conduct a differential diagnosis?

17 A That's right.

18 Q I want to ask you now for your opinion, whether in order
19 to perform a reliable diagnosis of asbestos-related illness of
20 the lung, whether compliance with the ATS recommendations is
21 required or not.

22 A I think it is required.

23 Q Okay. Exposure history, what qualifies as an exposure
24 history under the ATS recommendations?

25 A ATS recommends that a complete and thorough exposure

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1 history is obtained.

2 Q Okay.

3 A It doesn't specify exactly how that's done, but it clearly
4 states that it should be done.

5 Q I want to show you GG-2152 and ask whether this is an
6 excerpt of the language that the ATS document uses in talking
7 about the exposure history?

8 A It is.

9 Q Okay. That refers to, "It's to be obtained, whatever
10 possible, directly from the patient that defines duration,
11 intensity, time of onset, setting of exposure experienced by
12 the patient. Occupational title is not enough as the names of
13 many occupations and trades are uninformative." Is that what
14 it says?

15 A Yes.

16 Q I want to come back to that one in a minute. Let me ask
17 about lung function. Are there standardized methodologies for
18 determining lung function?

19 A There are.

20 MR. BERNICK: And at this point, Your Honor, we would
21 show the witness Exhibits GX-0322, 0323, and 0135, and they're
22 in the binders, Your Honor.

23 Q And let me ask you, Dr. Weill, are those exhibits -- do
24 they comprise the standards determining how pulmonary function
25 testing should be performed?

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1 A Yes.

2 MR. BERNICK: We offer them.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. FINCH: No objection, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: They're admitted.

6 Q Dr. Weill, did you perform a study in connection with this
7 case of pulmonary function results that were submitted by
8 claimants in connection with the PIQ process?

9 A Yes, I did.

10 Q I want to show you Exhibit GG-2153. Does this
11 demonstrative go through the stages of the analysis that you
12 did?

13 A Yes, it does.

14 MR. FINCH: Objection. Relevance. I object to the
15 relevance of any testimony or analysis of the pulmonary
16 function tests submitted in response to the personal injury
17 questionnaire for the two grounds I stated previously.

18 THE COURT: All right. Overruled.

19 Q Okay. In your own words could you just tell us basically
20 what you did in order to perform your study regarding PFTs?

21 A Sure. Our first purpose was to determine the reliability
22 of the sample of PFTs that were submitted by a variety of law
23 firms in this bankruptcy matter.

24 Q Okay. Go ahead.

25 A As our methods, we determined or defined a random sample

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1 of these PFTs in non-malignant claims only. We then developed
2 a flow sheet that had as its basis a protocol to develop an
3 assessment about whether or not patients were compliant with
4 ATS criteria, and we reviewed each PFT to evaluate compliance
5 in order to do this. And our results were, just to get to the
6 conclusion, that none of the 150 PFTs that we analyzed met ATS
7 requirements for the three standard lung function measurements.

8 Q I want to show you what we've marked as Exhibits GX-425,
9 GX-426, and GX-427 and ask you whether these documents are
10 summaries of the data that you obtained during the course of
11 your lung function study.

12 A Yes, they are.

13 MR. BUCHBINDER: We offer them as summaries, Your
14 Honor.

15 MR. FINCH: Objection. Relevance.

16 THE COURT: Overruled for the same reason. They'll
17 be accepted only as summaries.

18 Q What did you find with respect to all the PFT studies or
19 PFT measures that you reviewed during the course of your work
20 from these different claimants?

21 A The none of the 150 PFTs met all three ATS criteria.

22 Q Is failure to -- does failure to meet the PFT criteria,
23 does that bear upon the scientific reliability of the results?

24 A It does.

25 Q Tell us how it bears upon the scientific reliability of

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1 the results?

2 A The performance of pulmonary function tests is highly
3 technical, and in order for those tests to be repeatable and
4 accurate, they must be performed properly, and to do that the
5 ATS has developed these three documents that explain in a fair
6 amount of detail about exactly how that should be done.

7 Q Okay. In your view, based on the results of your work,
8 were any of the PFTs that you reviewed -- did any of them
9 constitute reliable medical evidence?

10 A No.

11 Q Do you have illustrations of two of the problems -- some
12 of the problems that were identified during the course of the
13 PFT studies?

14 A I do.

15 Q Showing you Exhibit 2154 and 2155 -- well, actually, let's
16 go through 2154 and 2155. What is reflected on 2154 as an
17 illustrative?

18 A And again these are just examples. And so what this
19 example shows is the failure on spirometric analysis to meet
20 ATS criteria, and what the failure is is that during the
21 patient's effort -- during the spirometric effort, which in
22 this case is inspiratory and expiratory, the patient coughed,
23 and so it disrupts the measurement while the patient's
24 coughing.

25 Q Okay.

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1 A And so to accept that spirogram is to accept information
2 that is not valid.

3 Q If somebody wanted to, could they just redo the test?

4 A Sure.

5 Q Okay. Showing you 2166, what's the problem illustrated on
6 2155?

7 A So again this is -- as part of the spirometric evaluation
8 you do what is called the volume over time measurement where
9 time is on one axis, in this case the horizontal axis, and the
10 volume a patient expires is on the vertical access. And what
11 the ATS criteria designate is that there should be three
12 efforts of at least six second duration when a patient blows
13 out and a plateau should be reached of at least one second.
14 Failure to meet that is a failure to meet one of the
15 spirometric requirements that the ATS puts forth.

16 Q I want to show you Exhibits GX -- I apologize for the
17 length of the number here. Your Honor it is GX7.1681352. And
18 the second one is GX7.893695. So the first one was 1681352,
19 second one is 8939695. Can I show you these and particularly
20 the flagged pages that I've identified here? Are these the PIQ
21 submissions for the two individuals whose PFTs you used for
22 illustrative purposes and Exhibits 2155, GG-2155 and GG-2154?

23 A Yes, they are.

24 MR. BERNICK: We offer them, Your Honor.

25 MR. FINCH: Objection, relevance.

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1 THE COURT: Overruled.

2 Q Why don't we come back to differential diagnosis, if we
3 can show 2156 and I want to come back to the discussion that we
4 had a few moments ago with the Court about the significance of
5 exposure history? In differential diagnosis, could you tell us
6 what it is that the doctor in general terms does in
7 differential diagnosis?

8 A What a physician is doing when generating a differential
9 diagnosis is considering all possible causes of whatever
10 objective evidence the patient presents.

11 Q Okay.

12 A And then, I'm sorry, just to expand a little bit on that.
13 Then there's a process that goes through the physician's mind
14 where he or she is excluding and ruling in possibilities
15 constantly.

16 Q Okay, now you have here on 2156 that when it comes to
17 differential diagnosis we are talking conditions that are
18 asbestos related, you say other conditions mimic the
19 radiographic appearances of asbestosis and plural abnormalities
20 and other diseases cause restrictive impairment. What are you
21 getting at when you make reference to those points? What's the
22 relevance of that?

23 A So even from an imaging and physiologic, that's the
24 pulmonary function test standpoint, there are diseases that
25 look exactly like the asbestos related diseases. And so if we

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1 were to go back to the x-rays that I flashed up earlier looking
2 at these asbestos related changes, one couldn't necessarily
3 determine that those were asbestos related. If you took those
4 changes just in isolation.

5 Q So showing you GG-2157, is this a list of some of the
6 conditions that as you say mimic the radiographic appearances
7 of asbestosis?

8 A Yes.

9 Q We see a whole variety of them there?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Turning to 2158, is this a similar list with respect to
12 conditions that mimic the radiographic appearance of diffused
13 plural thickening?

14 A Yes, it is.

15 Q And with respect to 2159, same thing with respect to
16 plural plaques?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Would it or would it not be fair, Dr. Weil, to say that in
19 all cases that is with respect to asbestosis, plural plaques
20 and diffused plural thickening that there are a wide variety of
21 other non-asbestos related conditions that can cause
22 radiographs that could be confused or similar to the
23 radiographs that are associated with those asbestos related
24 conditions?

25 A That's a fair statement.

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1 Q Okay. Now you've told us before that when it comes to
2 differential diagnosis, one of the tools that you have at your
3 disposal to determine whether a condition of the lung is
4 asbestos related or not, that is it might be one of these other
5 things, is to look for an exposure history. Do you recall
6 that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And again in order to bring us up to where we are in this
9 examination I think you also told us that the quality of the
10 exposure information obtained on patient history can be
11 variable.

12 A That's right.

13 Q I want to show you GG-2160 and ask whether this would
14 assist you in describing what some of the different kinds of
15 exposure information can comprise?

16 A Yes. On the left side of the slide, I've labeled what is
17 called anecdotal information. And that information comes from
18 the patient himself and it varies from patient to patient.
19 Some patients give a very detailed information, others don't.
20 But it varies. Now that information has to be compared to the
21 epidemiologic evidence that is available about exposure that's
22 much more carefully performed.

23 That evidence is usually occupation specific and
24 quantitative in nature. And so it provides a level of evidence
25 that is very good. And from a physician's standpoint it

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1 provides a background or framework to think about that
2 individual patient's exposure.

3 Q Okay. Now let's focus on this for just a moment. If you
4 have -- if you, as a doctor, have only anecdotal information
5 and it's general. I saw some dust in the air, et cetera, et
6 cetera, does that mean that a differential diagnosis is just
7 impossible?

8 A It's very difficult under those circumstances.

9 Q Depending upon the level of detail associated with the
10 anecdotal information might still become at some point, based
11 on anecdotal information alone, to perform some kind of
12 differential diagnosis?

13 A Yes. You just have to do the best you could.

14 Q I now want you to assume for purposes of my question that
15 the information that is obtained from the patient is of
16 sufficient specificity, that is as you showed in your prior
17 slide under the ATS, you know, intensity, duration, et cetera,
18 such that it can be matched up with the epidemiological
19 studies. I want you to make that assumption. What does that
20 do to the differential diagnosis?

21 A Well it raises your level of evidence about the exposure
22 history and makes the evidence more firm that you have an
23 adequate exposure history to increase the risk of developing
24 asbestosis.

25 Q Okay. Now I then want to ask you whether -- in a sense,

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1 the question I want to get you to is you know does it -- if
2 you've got the exposure data from the claimant that is here is
3 where I worked and how long I worked and you can fit it into
4 the epidemiological science, is there any way that a
5 differential diagnosis by an individual doctor somehow traps
6 the learning of epidemiology?

7 A No, it doesn't.

8 Q And why is that?

9 A Because the epidemiology has been done on a larger group
10 of patients. It's usually been done, if done properly, in a
11 quantitative dose fashion and so that the level of evidence and
12 the information you have about exposure is more precise.

13 MR. BERNICK: I pass the witness, Your Honor.

14 THE WITNESS: Your Honor, would it be possible to --

15 THE COURT: Certainly. We'll take a ten minute
16 recess. I'm going to correct a note here that I need to
17 correct so please take your recess.

18 (Recess)

19 THE COURT: Everyone back? Okay, Mr. Finch. Doctor,
20 are you ready? Okay. Mr. Finch.

21 MR. FINCH: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. FINCH:

24 Q Good morning, Dr. Weil. My name is Nathan Finch. I am
25 counsel to the asbestos claimant's committee in the Grace

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1 Bankruptcy.

2 A Good morning.

3 Q Is it true that you only have one publication related to
4 asbestos?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And that was a letter to the editor in response to the
7 2004 American Thoracic Society statement on the diagnosis and
8 initial management of asbestos related non-malignant diseases?

9 A That's right.

10 Q That was not a peer reviewed publication, correct?

11 A It was reviewed by their editorial board.

12 Q But it was not a statement -- it was not a study of
13 asbestos related diseases, correct? It was a commentary on the
14 2004 ATS standards, right?

15 A That's right.

16 Q And you've never participated in any research regarding
17 asbestos, correct?

18 A That's also correct.

19 Q And when you have testified in occupational lung cases
20 it's been most commonly for defendants, correct?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q And somewhere between 20 to 25 percent of your income in
23 the past two years has been from matters in which you've been
24 working for W.R. Grace?

25 A That's correct also.

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1 Q Now I have heard your testimony about differential
2 diagnosis and the importance of taking individual case
3 histories. Would you agree that the question of whether or not
4 a particular exposure to an asbestos containing material has
5 played a role in an individual's development of an asbestos
6 related disease depends on the careful analysis of all the
7 facts and circumstances relating to that particular individual?

8 A Yes.

9 Q That's true for every asbestos disease?

10 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, I don't know who the
11 individual is over here but unless that was -- maybe it was --

12 THE COURT: For my --

13 MR. BERNICK: Oh, it's to you. I apologize. Just
14 saw a thumbs up and was wondering what was going on.

15 MR. FINCH: Let the record reflect there was no
16 attempt to give a thumbs up to the witness. It is a
17 technological issue as to which I'm probably incompetent to
18 handle myself.

19 THE COURT: But for my edification, could you repeat
20 the last question please? While that was going on, I too was a
21 bit distracted.

22 Q Sure. Okay, Dr. Weil, would you agree that the question
23 of whether or not a particular exposure to an asbestos
24 containing material played a role in an individual's
25 development of an asbestos related disease depends on a careful

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1 analysis of all the facts and circumstances relating to that
2 particular individual?

3 A Yes.

4 Q That's true for every asbestos disease?

5 A Yes.

6 Q That's true for the each exposure?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And that's true for each individual's medical situation?

9 A That's also true.

10 Q Now the letter to the ATS you referred to in response to
11 one of my earlier questions, you were co-author of that letter
12 with a Dr. Hans Weill, correct?

13 A That's right.

14 Q And Mr. Bernick on direct exam elicited that you are Dr.
15 Hans Weill's son, correct?

16 A That's right.

17 Q And you were relying on some of his research for your
18 opinions here, correct?

19 A I am.

20 Q Is it fair to say that you and he are in general agreement
21 on issues relating to asbestos related medicine?

22 A As long as you make that specification, yes.

23 Q So you would agree with him that may asbestos disease
24 patients are exposed to asbestos from a variety of sources?

25 MR. BERNICK: Objection. If there's going to be

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1 purported impeachment of the witness using testimony from his
2 father, that'd be a very interesting kind of impeachment. But
3 I think that the fact that he agrees with his father's view or
4 Dr. Weill, Sr.'s views does not provide an adequate foundation
5 for then attempting to impeach him using Dr. Weill Sr.'s
6 testimony.

7 MR. FINCH: I wasn't trying to impeach him, Your
8 Honor. I was asking him does he agree that many asbestos
9 disease patients are exposed to asbestos from a variety of
10 sources.

11 MR. BERNICK: The problem is that is now counsel's
12 testimony that that is Dr. Weill Sr.'s view and there is no
13 foundation for that. If he wants to provide a copy and give
14 the witness an opportunity to review it, he can then-- there
15 can then be a record of the fact that Dr. Weill Sr. said that
16 on examination. Otherwise, all this is is reading from some
17 other person's statement and saying do you agree with Dr.
18 Weill. There's no record of evidence that Dr. Weill said that.

19 MR. FINCH: Okay, may I approach the witness, Your
20 Honor?

21 THE COURT: Yes.

22 Q Let me ask the question this way. Dr. Weill, leaving your
23 father completely out of it, would you agree that many asbestos
24 disease patients are exposed to asbestos from a variety of
25 sources?

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1 A I think some are and some aren't.

2 Q But many are, correct?

3 A I'm not really sure what you mean by many. I think just
4 some are and some aren't.

5 Q Would you agree that it's not possible to do an
6 epidemiological forecast just as the people who were exposed to
7 one particular company's asbestos product?

8 MR. BERNICK: Objection. Lack of foundation. Also
9 goes beyond the scope of his examination. He's now trying to
10 turn this witness into an epidemiologist with respect to a
11 different question that this witness never addressed. I'm
12 sorry, this is an improper question. This goes outside the
13 scope of the examination. It attempts to turn this witness
14 into an expert on epidemiology concerning Grace specific
15 exposure. He was never proffered for that purpose. It goes
16 beyond the scope of direct and seeks to make him now the ACC's
17 witness. This is totally improper.

18 THE COURT: I don't think the witness is qualified on
19 epidemiology or forecasting. He was qualified with respect to
20 certain issues concerning asbestos and lung diseases and I'm
21 not sure how this fits into that, Mr. Finch. Do you want to
22 lay a foundation for me?

23 MR. FINCH: Your Honor, he did testify about his use
24 of epidemiological studies.

25 THE COURT: He did.

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1 MR. FINCH: In making a differential diagnosis.

2 Q And would you agree with me, Dr. Weill, that the
3 epidemiological studies that you looked to in making a
4 differential diagnosis do not in general provide the names of
5 the products to which the people were exposed?

6 A It does provide the type of exposure they had. Sometimes
7 product specific, sometimes not.

8 Q Can you point to any source in the epidemiological
9 literature that lists the names of the products to which the
10 workers were exposed? The Selikoff studies don't name all the
11 products that were exposed --

12 MR. BERNICK: That's two questions, which question?

13 Q Okay. You would agree with me that the Selikoff insulator
14 studies don't list the names of the products, correct?

15 A They don't.

16 Q And the Hans Weill and Hughes study of the cement workers
17 in New Orleans doesn't list all of the names of all of the
18 various asbestos products those people were exposed to,
19 correct?

20 A That's also correct.

21 Q And as you sit here today, isn't it the case that the vast
22 majority of the epidemiological literature doesn't name the
23 products? They might name the types of products, but they
24 don't name the products which the workers were exposed to?

25 MR. BERNICK: I think this is outside scope. Let him

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1 answer it and move on.

2 A By naming the product, you mean company name?

3 Q Yes.

4 A No, they do not.

5 Q And so would you agree with me for that reason it's not
6 possible to do a product specific epidemiological assessment or
7 projection of disease?

8 MR. BERNICK: That question is no different than the
9 question he asked five minutes ago and has the same defect. He
10 is now making this witness into an expert in epidemiology and
11 seeking to elicit testimony in support of a proposition that
12 was not placed at issue on the direct examination.

13 MR. FINCH: Your Honor, I stand by my question. Can
14 I have a ruling?

15 THE COURT: Well this witness -- this is well outside
16 the scope of this witness's testimony and I'm not sure, unless
17 there is something in his report that I don't recall reading,
18 Mr. Finch, so it may be there and I may have forgotten it. I
19 don't recall that this witness offered an opinion on this type
20 of area.

21 MR. FINCH: Okay. I'll move on, Your Honor. Thank
22 you.

23 Q You have -- I believe I placed a copy of your first report
24 on the ledge in front of you. Do you have that?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Dr. Weill. And for purposes of identification we've
2 marked this as ACC-597. I don't intend to offer it Your Honor,
3 but I do have some questions for the witness from it. Do you
4 have your first report, ACC-597 in front of you, Dr. Weill?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay, could you turn to Page 19 of that report?

7 A Got it.

8 Q Okay. At the last paragraph, is it correct that you wrote
9 while there is widespread agreement about the role of cigarette
10 smoking and causing lung cancer, the relationship between
11 asbestos exposures, asbestosis and lung cancer has been
12 intensely debated both in the academic and legal arenas. The
13 opinions regarding this relationship can be divided into three
14 positions. One exposure to asbestos of any amount increases
15 the lung cancer risk; two, exposure to asbestos of amounts
16 sufficient to cause asbestosis are necessary to attribute lung
17 cancer to exposure and three, asbestosis either rated
18 graphically evident or present on histologic material is
19 necessary to attribute lung cancer to asbestos exposure in an
20 individual case. You wrote those words?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And so that's the debate in the medical literature,
23 correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Could we go to the powerpoints? All right, one of the --

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1 while we're waiting for that, one of the articles you cited in
2 your report, and I believe it's Reference 84 in your report, is
3 an article by Gustovson, correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay, now at Page 23 of your report, if you turn to Page
6 23 of your report, Dr. Weill?

7 A Yes.

8 Q You write, some studies have indicated there is a dose
9 response relationship between asbestos exposure and lung cancer
10 risk, even at low levels of exposure. And that's reference 84,
11 right?

12 A Right.

13 Q That's the Gustovson study?

14 A right.

15 Q Okay. Could you turn in your notebook to Exhibit 331?

16 A I've got it.

17 Q All right. Exhibit 331 is the article by Per Gustovson
18 that you cited for the proposition that some experts believe
19 that there is a dose response relationship between asbestos
20 exposure and lung cancer risk even at low levels of exposure?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And that was an article that was published in the American
23 Journal of Epidemiology?

24 A Yes.

25 Q That's a peer reviewed medical journal?

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1 A It is.

2 Q And what those researchers found in the middle of the
3 abstract is that lung cancer risk increased almost linearly
4 with cumulative dose of asbestos. The risk at a cumulative
5 dose of four fiber years is 1.90, 95 percent confidence,
6 interval 1.32 to 2.74. That's what they found, correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Now there is, if we go to the powerpoint, okay, so there
9 is lung cancer caused by asbestos three views. One is what
10 I'll call the Gustovson view that lung cancer plus asbestos
11 exposure. Second view is -- you are familiar with the Helsinki
12 criteria. You talked about them a little bit on direct,
13 correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Those criteria were developed by a group of approximately
16 20 scientists who have expertise in asbestos related medical
17 issues, correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q One of them was Dr. John Parker?

20 A That's right.

21 Q He's one of Grace's experts here?

22 A As I understand it.

23 Q One of them is Dr. Victor Rodley who is one of the FCR's
24 experts here?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q And the authors of the Helsinki criteria had collectively
2 between them published hundreds of papers in the peer view
3 medical literature on asbestos related diseases, correct?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q In your book on Page 398 there is the summary title from
6 the -- excuse me, Exhibit 398. Are you at Exhibit 398 Dr.
7 Weill?

8 A Yes.

9 Q John, can we get back to Exhibit 398? That's the summary
10 page and the summary article from what is commonly known as the
11 Helsinki criteria, correct?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. And could you turn to Page 314 of that article?
14 And the authors of the Helsinki criteria concluded, did they
15 not, that relative risk is roughly doubled for cohorts exposed
16 to asbestos fibers at a cumulative exposure of 25 fiber years
17 and with an equivalent occupational history at which level
18 asbestosis may or may not be present or detectable? Heavy
19 exposure in the absence of radiologically diagnosed asbestosis
20 is sufficient to increase the risk of lung cancer. Cumulative
21 exposures below 25 fiber years are also associated with an
22 increased risk of lung cancer but to a less extent. That's the
23 opinions of the authors of the Helsinki criteria, correct?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q Back to the slide show. Now the third point of view is

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1 the view that your father had and that you have which is that
2 in order to attribute lung cancer to asbestos exposure, you
3 have to have lung cancer and asbestosis, correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q So if you have a patient with lung cancer and asbestosis,
6 you would attribute their lung cancer in whole or in part to
7 asbestos exposure?

8 A That's right.

9 Q Okay. Now One way you confirm the presence of asbestosis
10 or can, and this is the way your father did it in the Hughes
11 Weill's study was by looking at x-rays of people, correct?

12 A That's right.

13 Q Another way to confirm the presence of asbestosis is to
14 confirm it by pathology correct?

15 A Also correct.

16 THE COURT: Again, this is saying asbestos but you
17 mean asbestosis, correct?

18 MR. FINCH: I mean asbestosis. There's a typo in
19 Number 3, Your Honor. I apologize for that.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. FINCH: I'm not going to offer these. These are
22 for demonstrative purposes.

23 Q With that, you understood my question Dr. Weill? The two
24 ways to confirm the presence of asbestosis. One is you can
25 confirm the presence of asbestosis by looking at an x-ray,

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1 correct?

2 A Correct.

3 Q And the second way is to do it by pathology, correct?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Now on direct examination Mr. Bernick showed you a list of
6 some studies. One of them is something called the Kipen study.

7 Are you familiar with that?

8 A Yes.

9 Q All right. Would you agree with me that the Kipen study
10 stands for the proposition that asbestosis can be present
11 pathologically even if an x-ray is completely normal?

12 A Yes, I'd say that.

13 Q And if you go to your book, Exhibit 623 in your book?

14 A I've got it.

15 Q Okay Exhibit 623, ACC FCR 623, that's what is commonly
16 known as the Kipen study that was published in the British
17 Journal of Industrial Medicine? •

18 A Yes.

19 Q And what those authors found in the abstract and what they
20 found in their study is that these were 138 people where they
21 had a tissue specimen that people have died from lung cancer,
22 right?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And all of them had parenchymal fibrosis determined
25 pathologically even though 18 percent of that group had no

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1 radiologic -- they had no radiographic evidence of parenchymal
2 fibrosis, right?

3 A That's right.

4 Q Okay. Can you go back to the powerpoint?

5 THE COURT: I'm sorry, would you say that again
6 please.

7 Q What that means Dr. Weill is that --

8 THE COURT: No could you just restate the statement
9 for me. I thought you said they died of it but they had no
10 evidence of it. Is that what you said?

11 MR. FINCH: NO, they died of lung cancer.

12 Q That's correct, Dr. Weill?

13 A They did.

14 Q And they had pathology specimens on 138 of those people,
15 that's right?

16 A Also right.

17 Q Okay. And for all 138 of those people when you looked at
18 the pathology -- pathology involves taking a specimen of tissue
19 and putting it under a microscope, right?

20 A Right.

21 Q When they looked at the pathology, all 138 of those people
22 had asbestosis, right?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Would you agree with me that if asbestosis is detected by
25 pathology, it's there? There's no dispute whether it's

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1 asbestosis or not?

2 A There might be a pathological dispute but not as a
3 clinician, a dispute with me.

4 Q If you heard -- have you used the statement that pathology
5 is the gold standard for diagnosis asbestosis?

6 A Certainly heard that, yes.

7 Q Okay, and so what this found is that in 18 percent of
8 those people they had normal chest x-rays but they in fact had
9 asbestosis?

10 A Right.

11 Q Now back to the powerpoint. So I believe you just said
12 pathology is the gold standard?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Okay. I want you to assume that a person has lung cancer
15 and asbestosis that is confirmed by pathology but is not
16 detectable on an x-ray. Make that assumption?

17 A I can.

18 Q You would attribute that person's lung cancer to the
19 asbestos exposure at least in whole or in part, correct?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q To say that lung cancer in this person could not be caused
22 by exposure to asbestos is medically wrong, isn't that right?

23 A That's right.

24 Q Now what is the American Thoracic Society? We talked
25 about the document which was shown to you by Mr. Bernick which

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1 is Grace Exhibit 274. What is the American Thoracic Society?

2 A It's a society of primarily chest physicians.

3 Q And the publish statements about such things as what

4 criteria are necessary to run an appropriate lung function test

5 for example?

6 A That's right.

7 Q And you relied on those in doing your analysis for PFTs?

8 A Right.

9 Q And they also published statements about what diagnostic
10 criteria are necessary to diagnose asbestosis and other non-
11 malignant diseases, correct?

12 A Yes.

13 Q The -- could you turn in your book to ACC FCR 389.

14 A I've got it.

15 Q That's the same -- Your Honor, for the purposes of the
16 record that's the same document as Grace 274.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 Q This is the American Thoracic Society statement regarding
19 the diagnosis and initial management of non-malignant diseases
20 related to asbestos, is that correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Okay. The -- back to the powerpoint. Would you agree
23 with me that the American Thoracic Society statement allows for
24 a diagnosis of asbestosis to be made with a 1/0 on the ILO
25 scale, correct?

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1 A In the proper exposure setting.

2 Q In the proper exposure setting. Adequate asbestos
3 exposure, correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Appropriate latency?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And latency is usually stated as more than 10 years,
8 correct?

9 A Some state it more than 10 years, some say more than 20.

10 Q Okay. And the latency period for asbestosis can be 40 or
11 50 years in some cases, correct?

12 A That's also correct.

13 Q And then you exclude other causes, right?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Could you turn in the -- leave the powerpoint up, we'll
16 just go through the books. Could you turn in your book to
17 Exhibit 389, the ATS statement to Page 696?

18 A I've got it.

19 Q Now one way to look for interstitial fibrosis in the meat
20 of the lung, as you put it, is to look at an x-ray, correct?

21 A That's right.

22 Q Another way to do it is to look at high resolution CT
23 scans, correct?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q HRCT. And would you agree with me that the American

1 Thoracic Society is determined that HRCT is much more sensitive
2 in detection of asbestosis than plain chest radiographs?

3 A That's what they concluded.

4 Q Okay. So what that means is that if you look at an HRCT
5 scan you are much more likely to see the changes, the
6 interstitial changes that can be asbestosis than if you just
7 look at an old x-ray, right?

8 A I don't agree with that. I think what you are more likely
9 to see are changes and I would stop there.

10 Q Okay, so you disagree with the ATS about that?

11 A I disagree and I don't think that they were trying to
12 imply that the HRCT scanning is absolutely specific for
13 asbestosis. I agree with their statement regarding its
14 sensitivity. It's a very sensitive clinical and refurbished
15 tool.

16 Q Don't they also say at the top of Page 697 that HRCT is
17 more specific than plain chest radiographs excluding conditions
18 such as emphysema, thistle prominence, overlapping plural
19 disease, bronchiostasis which may confound radiographic
20 interpretation?

21 A I agree with their statement that it's more specific when
22 excluding those diseases. What I don't agree with is that it
23 is more specific in excluding other fibrotic lung disease.

24 Q So you differ with them on that, correct?

25 A No, I don't. I actually agree with that statement. But

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1 those diseases that they list are not fibroic lung diseases.
2 Those are diseases that look entirely different on HRCT
3 scanning. So where I differ is that HRCT scanning as a tool is
4 unable to distinguish between the over 150 causes of fibroic
5 lung disease.

6 Q And you differ with the American Thoracic Study on that
7 particular aspect?

8 A I don't. What they are saying is that it is very specific
9 -- a very specific tool when you are talking about
10 differentiating between obstructive lung diseases that they
11 list here for instance and changes due to asbestosis, which are
12 very fibroic lung disease.

13 Q But would you agree with me that the American Thoracic
14 Society allows clinicians to use HRCT to diagnose asbestosis?

15 A What I think the discussion really included in the
16 statement is that HRCT scanning is a very sensitive tool for
17 looking at lung disease. That's what I took away from it.

18 Q Okay, and -- but it is permissible to use an HRCT to
19 diagnose asbestosis, correct?

20 MR. BERNICK: Wait. Permissible or consistent with
21 the guidelines that are before the witness?

22 Q Would you agree with me that it's consistent with the
23 guidelines for a clinician to use HRCT to diagnose asbestosis?

24 A It's in the guidelines.

25 Q So it is consistent?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Would you also agree that the American Thoracic Society
3 does not require lung function impairment to diagnose
4 asbestosis?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Would you agree that the American Thoracic Society does
7 not require more than one B reader to read an x-ray to diagnose
8 asbestosis?

9 MR. BERNICK: Objection to the form of the question.
10 That assumes that the ATS standard addresses the issue.

11 Q Do you agree with me that there is nothing in the ATS
12 standard that says you need more than one B reader to read an
13 x-ray to diagnose asbestosis?

14 A I don't remember their weighing in on that subject one way
15 or the other.

16 Q And I believe you agree that the proposition that the
17 American Thoracic Society allows doctors to use HRCT to detect
18 asbestosis?

19 THE COURT: I'm sorry, would you repeat that?

20 Q Would you agree with me that the American Thoracic Society
21 allows doctors to use HRCT to detect asbestosis?

22 A Sure.

23 Q Okay. Now, let's talk briefly about --

24 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. Finch. May I ask a
25 question about the HRCT please? Doctor, you just said that the

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1 HRCT is a specific disease that helps you diagnose obstructive
2 lung diseases, but that's not what asbestosis is.

3 THE WITNESS: Right.

4 MR. FINCH: So I'm sorry, did you have a specific
5 question you wanted me to --

6 THE COURT: Yes, So the ATS allows you to use that
7 function to diagnose a disease for which it is not intended to
8 be used?

9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry I didn't make that clear.
10 What I was really trying to point out is that the -- there is
11 two broad categories of lung disease both obstructive and
12 restrictive. The HRCT being a very sensitive tool, meaning
13 it's trying to include everybody that has possible lung disease
14 fulfills that criteria. It's very sensitive. What -- while it
15 allows us to distinguish between different categories of the
16 disease, ones who are within one category of disease, i.e.
17 fibrosis in our discussion, it breaks down. It's not able to
18 give us enough specificity to allow us to distinguish between
19 asbestosis and the other causes of fibrosis.

20 THE COURT: So it's not specific within the
21 categories once you get to a category, restrictive versus
22 obstructive.

23 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

24 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

25 Q But it does allow clinicians to use HRCT to diagnosis

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1 asbestosis, correct?

2 A I think it suggests it as an aid in that process, yes.

3 Q Okay. Were you aware that in Dr. Henry's study they
4 ignored any HRCT images that came in with the sample of x-rays?

5 A I can't speak specifically to how they handled HRCT
6 scanning in that study.

7 Q Let's talk about the health effects of asbestosis. One of
8 the things that was found in your father's study of the cement
9 workers is that people who had asbestosis were four times more
10 likely to die of lung cancer than people who did not, is that
11 correct?

12 A That's correct.

13 Q So that's one consequence if you are diagnosed with
14 asbestosis, you are four times more likely to die of -- to get
15 lung cancer, correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And most people who get lung cancer eventually die of it,
18 right?

19 A That's right.

20 Q Would you also agree with me that asbestosis is a chronic
21 condition? There is no way to cure it.

22 A That is also correct.

23 Q Do you also agree with me that if you have asbestosis, you
24 are more susceptible to respiratory infections?

25 A I'm not aware of any studies that look at asbestosis

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1 specifically although it's true of any chronic lung condition.

2 Q So any kind of chronic interstitial fibrosis can make you
3 more susceptible to lung -- to infections?

4 A I would agree with that.

5 Q Okay. Would you agree that asbestosis causes a lung
6 function decline in some people?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Would you agree with me that most people who get
9 asbestosis don't die from it?

10 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, I object to this line of
11 questioning. I don't know what it has to do with the witness's
12 direct examination.

13 THE COURT: He's an expert in -- he's been qualified
14 as an expert in this area. I think this is clear that it's
15 cross examination. It's overruled.

16 A I'm sorry. Could you repeat the question?

17 Q Would you agree that most people who contract asbestosis
18 don't die from it?

19 A It depends. It really depends on the severity of the
20 disease. So I can't give you a percentage in the broad
21 category of asbestosis how many die and how many don't.

22 Q Would you agree that a person can have asbestosis without
23 knowing it?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And on the pulmonary function test scores, one of those

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1 measurements is force vital capacity?

2 A Right.

3 Q And that is expressed as a percentage of predicted value?

4 A That's also right.

5 Q So in order for someone to show up as abnormal on a
6 pulmonary function test for force vital capacity, FVC, you have
7 to be below 80 percent of predicted is one way they calculate
8 that, correct?

9 A That's one way.

10 Q Another way to calculate it is below the lower limits of
11 normal meaning two standard deviations from the mean, correct?

12 A Also correct.

13 Q Okay. And so --

14 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, again this witness offered
15 testimony about how to perform the pulmonary lung function test
16 period. He was not offered for purposes of getting into any
17 other aspects of lung function and how to deal with it. Now it
18 may be that we could have him testify about that but that's not
19 -- his nickel is part of his case, not my case.

20 THE COURT: But it's still cross examination and he's
21 still an expert in this area.

22 MR. BERNICK: Sure, but what he can't go to cross
23 examination -- it can't be cross examination and go to his
24 credibility or use for impeachment unless he has said something
25 in his direct that is contradictory. And he didn't address

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1 this in direct.

2 THE COURT: Well he hasn't address this specifically
3 in his direct. I'll give you a little leeway Mr. Finch, but
4 you are going pretty far afield on this testimony.

5 MR. FINCH: I have two more questions about this
6 topic and then I'll move to one other topic and that'll be it.

7 Q Would you agree with me in the measuring of lung function
8 decline, let's say a person starts out at 110 percent of
9 predicted. Okay, let's say that they are a world class runner.
10 And their lung function declines from that to 85 percent of
11 predicted on forced vital capacity. Understand that
12 hypothetical?

13 A I do.

14 Q That person is still going to show up as normal on a lung
15 function test?

16 MR. BERNICK: Objection. This is the same -- this is
17 a hypothetical that has no tie to anything in particular.
18 Again if he wants to do this he can do this as part of his
19 case, not this case.

20 THE COURT: That's sustained.

21 MR. FINCH: All right, Your Honor. One other thing.

22 Q In terms of the American Thoracic Society Mr. Bernick
23 asked you about the 1986 American Thoracic Society statement.
24 Do you recall some questions about that?

25 A I do.

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1 Q Could you turn in your book to an exhibit that's been
2 marked ACC FCR 621?

3 A I've got it.

4 Q This was previously marked as Grace 280, Your Honor. This
5 is the 1986 American Thoracic Society Statement?

6 A Yes, it is.

7 Q Could you turn on the elmo quickly? Do you remember Mr.
8 Bernick showing you this list of -- zoom it out. Right there.
9 Do you remember Mr. Bernick showed this list of conditions that
10 mimic the radiographic appearance of asbestosis?

11 A Yes, I do.

12 Q Could you turn in the American Thoracic Society 1986
13 guidelines on Page 367?

14 A I've got it.

15 Q The last paragraph above the summary. It's Exhibit 621.

16 A Yes.

17 Q The last paragraph above the summary the American Thoracic
18 Society writes there are diseases unrelated to asbestos
19 exposure but with similar symptoms. These may occur in some
20 persons with asbestos exposure. However, given a clear history
21 of exposure to asbestos, a diffuse interstitial fibrosis can be
22 assumed to be due to the asbestos as other forms of
23 interstitial fibrosis are relatively uncommon. Is that the
24 ATS's views?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q And they haven't changed that view?

2 A I don't think so, no.

3 MR. FITCH: Your Honor, I pass the witness. Thank
4 you, Dr. Weill.

5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Mullady.

7 MR. MULLADY: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 CROSS EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. MULLADY:

10 Q Good afternoon, Dr. Weill.

11 A Good afternoon.

12 Q Is the elmo still up? Thank you very much. On direct
13 examination, you discussed the Hughes Weill study on asbestos
14 as a precursor of asbestos related lung cancer. Is that
15 correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q We're showing the article on the elmo at this time,
18 correct?

19 A Yes.

20 THE COURT: I'm sorry. What's the exhibit Mr.
21 Mullady?

22 MR. MULLADY: This is GX-590.

23 THE COURT: Thank you.

24 Q And you told us, Doctor, that this article provides a
25 biologically plausible hypothesis linking lung fibrosis and

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1 cancer as common mediators, correct?

2 A Actually this article provided epidemiologic evidence.

3 Not so much biologic plausibility.

4 Q Understood.

5 MR. BERNICK: If you could get a little close to the
6 mic, it would be easier for us to hear.

7 A Sorry, I was mentioning that this article and my testimony
8 about it provided epidemiologic evidence regarding the
9 attribution question not so much the biologic plausibility
10 issue.

11 Q Understood. You showed us this slide illustrating your
12 hypothesis, GX-2130. Do you recall this?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And the theory is essentially that asbestos is a lung
15 carcinogen because of its ability to cause lung fibrosis,
16 right?

17 A Yes, in part, yes.

18 Q And that theory is actually discussed in the Hughes Weill
19 article toward the end of the paper. Do you recall that?

20 A Yes.

21 Q The study authors had this to say about the theory. The
22 current study is the latest in emerging body of evidence
23 supporting the view that asbestos is a lung carcinogen because
24 of its ability to cause lung fibrosis. Nevertheless, further
25 results and support of these findings is necessary before a

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1 firm conclusion concerning such a mechanism can be reached.

2 Did I read that correctly?

3 A You did.

4 Q So it's only a hypothesis. Further study is needed,
5 correct?

6 MR. BERNICK: Objection. What is a hypothesis?

7 Objection to the form of the question. I'm not sure everybody
8 understands or not. What is the reference about what is the
9 hypothesis?

10 Q I'm referring, Doctor, to the hypothesis that is discussed
11 in the article as opposed to your biologically plausible
12 hypothesis.

13 MR. BERNICK: Again, I would then object. He's
14 directed the witness to a particular paragraph dealing with a
15 particular feature that is being discussed in that article, not
16 the article as a whole. If the reference is to the what is
17 discussed in that paragraph, I understand the question.

18 THE COURT: Restate the question, Mr. Mullady,
19 specific as to what the hypothesis is you are referring to
20 please.

21 Q Doctor, let's just take a step back. You would agree that
22 the study authors here characterize their work as the latest in
23 an emerging body of evidence supporting the view that asbestos
24 is a lung carcinogen because of its ability to cause lung
25 fibrosis?

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1 A I don't think the -- I don't think the authors were
2 suggesting a biologic explanation for their findings.

3 Q That wasn't my question.

4 A I'm not sure what it is then.

5 Q I'm simply asking you if the Hughes Weill authors stated
6 in their paper that their study which they refer to as the
7 current study was at that time the latest in an emerging body
8 of evidence supporting the view that asbestos is a lung
9 carcinogen because of its ability to cause lung fibrosis?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And they go on to say nevertheless further results in
12 support of these findings are necessary before a firm
13 conclusion concerning such a mechanism can be reached, correct?

14 A That's what they conclude.

15 Q Right. So the mechanism that they are hypothesizing in
16 this article, you would agree that they were saying that that
17 is a hypothesis and that further study is needed to confirm it?

18 A That's what they are saying, but remember this is over 15
19 years ago that this article was published. So there's been
20 more recent work on the molecular aspects of this question.

21 Q But it is still fair to say, isn't it Doctor, that to date
22 the medical and scientific community has not reached a firm
23 conclusion concerning the hypothesized mechanism?

24 A The hypothesized mechanism?

25 Q Correct.

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1 A I think what can be said is that since 1991 there's been
2 additional evidence and additional research that's proved
3 informative. Now to say that it is completely worked out and
4 perfectly understood would be an overstatement.

5 Q You testified that it's your opinion that you can't have
6 asbestos related lung cancer in the absence of asbestosis,
7 correct? We talked about that?

8 A Yes.

9 Q In other words, you believed asbestos exposure alone does
10 not cause lung cancer, correct?

11 A Yes.

12 Q But asbestos exposure alone can certainly cause
13 asbestosis. You don't disagree with that?

14 A No, I do not.

15 Q And asbestosis can cause lung cancer, correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And putting on the elmo here a slide that you used in your
18 direct. This is 2130, GX-2130.

19 THE COURT: I think it's 2139.

20 MR. MULLADY: Oh, I'm sorry.

21 Q 2139, 39. And here you are indicating that as between
22 asbestosis and lung cancer there is a direct connection and you
23 put the word yes here for that reason, correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q But we could also draw an arrow from asbestosis exposure

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1 alone to asbestos -- excuse me, I'll restart this question
2 again. We could also draw a line from asbestos exposure alone
3 to asbestosis and we could put yes next to that as well,
4 couldn't we?

5 A You could put yes. But you would also have to have a
6 pathway of course that says no. Because not everybody that is
7 asbestos exposed is going to develop asbestosis.

8 Q But with that caveat you would be comfortable making that
9 connection and using the word yes?

10 A In that very narrow sense, yes.

11 Q I want to ask you some questions about your testimony on
12 the taking of an exposure history. I think you told us in your
13 report that the proper taking of a careful exposure history is
14 vital when diagnosing an asbestos related condition, correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Can we have 597 please? I'm having your expert report
17 pulled up from October of 2006 where you discussed the history
18 that a clinician should take from a person presenting with a
19 possible asbestos related disease. Do you recall that in your
20 report?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Okay, we have it on the screen. At Page 52, excuse me,
23 yes 52 we can go there under exposure history. You told us
24 that the history should not simply contain job titles and the
25 company name of where one worked but rather comprehensive

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1 information about the chronology of workplace exposures,
2 frequency of exposures, type of respiratory protection used and
3 proximity to others using asbestos products in the work
4 environment, correct?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Can we have 407 please? This is the W.R. Grace asbestos
7 personal injury questionnaire that was given to claimants in
8 this case, Doctor. I just want to refer you to Part 3 on Page
9 of this form which is where the claimants were asked to
10 provide evidence of their direct exposure to Grace asbestos
11 containing products. It's a little bit small. I hope you can
12 read it.

13 A I'm sorry, where am I looking?

14 Q Top of this Page 9, Part 3, direct exposure to Grace
15 containing asbestos -- Grace asbestos containing products. Do
16 you see that?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And we see here that the Grace claimants were asked to
19 provide information in the nature of exposure column on the far
20 right of the chart and we're going to blow this up a little bit
21 so you can see it. It's a little dark but I think you can make
22 out the words nature of exposure. Do you see that?

23 A I do.

24 Q They were asked, if we can go back up to the top on the
25 instructions, they were asked to indicate the letters

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1 corresponding to whether the claimant was in "any of the
2 following" during his exposure and the choices are listed in
3 Paragraphs A through E. Do you see that?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Now --

6 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, this does go beyond the
7 scope of the direct examination and all I can say is the door
8 is now open to the witness testifying about the -- about what
9 actually happened in filling out these forms. I'm happy to do
10 that but this goes beyond the scope. I feel obliged to say this
11 goes beyond the scope of direct examination and opens the door
12 to another area of inquiry that I intend to pursue.

13 MR. MULLADY: I think Mr. Bernick is a little bit
14 ahead of himself. I think when he sees what I'm doing with
15 this he might not have this concern.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 Q Directing your attention to Paragraph, I think that's E, a
18 worker in a space -- a worker in a space where Grace asbestos
19 containing products were being installed, mixed, removed, or
20 cut by others. Do you see that?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Now Doctor, given that one of the elements of an
23 appropriate history, exposure history, in your view is to
24 determine whether the worker was in, as you say, proximity to
25 others using asbestos products in the work environment. Does

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1 knowing that the worker was in a space where asbestos products
2 were being used, without more, give you a basis as a clinician
3 to conclude that the worker has an asbestos related disease?

4 MR. BERNICK: Objection. Is that the sole piece of
5 information in the hypothetical, just that?

6 MR. MULLADY: Yes.

7 A As I understand, you are asking if I would consider that
8 information as part of the whole?

9 Q No. I'm saying that if that's all you knew that the
10 worker worked in a space where Grace asbestos products were
11 being used by others, as a clinician would that be enough of an
12 appropriate exposure history to determine whether that worker
13 has an asbestos related disease?

14 A It really depends on the exposure. I don't think I can
15 make a generic comment about that.

16 Q But would you agree that as a clinician trying to
17 determine if this individual, this hypothetical individual, has
18 an asbestos related disease you would want to know about the
19 size of the space or just how closely the patient worked to
20 asbestos? Wouldn't you?

21 MR. BERNICK: Objection to the form of the question
22 and lacks foundation.

23 THE COURT: Overruled.

24 Q I think you answered it. Can you repeat your answer?

25 A I think that would be helpful information.

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1 Q You agree that clinicians should quantitate --
2 qualitatively figure out if the patient you are talking to has
3 enough exposure to increase the risk of disease because it's
4 impossible to accurately quantify the individual's exposure.

5 Is that correct?

6 MR. BERNICK: That question is compound number one.
7 Number two, the second part of it exceeds at least based upon
8 the proffer so far, the scope of his expertise.

9 THE COURT: Let me see if I got this correct because
10 if I did, I have to sustain this objection. Do you want to
11 restate the question?

12 MR. MULLADY: I'll withdraw the question and just
13 refer the witness to his deposition testimony.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 Q Do you recall giving deposition in this case, Doctor?

16 A Yes, I do recall it.

17 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, the fact that he's given a
18 deposition is relevant if it's impeachment, the impeachment of
19 a statement. What's the statement that's being impeached.

20 THE COURT: That's sustained too.

21 Q Do you agree, Doctor, that a clinician assessing whether a
22 patient has an asbestos related condition should qualitatively
23 determine if the patient has had enough exposure to asbestos to
24 increase the risk of disease?

25 A To the extent that you are unable to do it quantitatively,

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1 the answer is yes.

2 Q And often as a clinician you are unable to quantify the
3 amount of asbestos and you must make that qualitative judgment,
4 is that correct?

5 A In an individual case, that is true.

6 Q You showed us a demonstrative, this is 2160, if we can
7 have the elmo back up please. This demonstrative discussed the
8 components and methodology for generating a reliable diagnosis.
9 Do you recall this?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And this is where you put into two categories different
12 types of exposure evidence. Some anecdotal and those which
13 would fall under the rubric of epidemiologic evidence, correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q My question is with reference to the question on the PIQ
16 about whether the worker is or was in a space, would it be fair
17 to say that would be another type of anecdotal information that
18 would go over here? I was in a space. Would you agree with
19 that?

20 A I would certainly agree with that. What I'm unsure of is
21 that is the only information you have because I'm not familiar
22 with what studies are available regarding Grace exposure
23 quantitatively in a space.

24 Q With that qualification, what I've written there that's
25 the appropriate place for it. It's in the anecdotal category.

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1 MR. BERNICK: Objection. First of all that doesn't
2 even properly quote Category E. B, it takes it out of context
3 of the other questions that were asked with respect to it. So
4 to the extent that that question purports to refer to the
5 questionnaire, it is misleading and it is incomplete.

6 THE COURT: Well the question proffered to the
7 witness was not incomplete but the statement that was just
8 added to the chart does not reflect what was on the PIQ. So to
9 the extent that you want something added to the chart that is
10 reflective of the PIQ right now I'll understand that to be the
11 shorthand explanation of what is on the PIQ. But you are going
12 to have to write out what was on the PIQ. If that is what you
13 are attempting to do. The witness has said it's anecdotal
14 except he doesn't know whether there are any quantitative
15 studies to back up the data. So I think the record is clear.

16 MR. MULLADY: I don't think I need to rewrite it but
17 let me just ask the witness.

18 Q You would consider it to be anecdotal if the worker said I
19 was in a space where Grace asbestos containing products were
20 being installed, mixed, removed or cut by others?

21 MR. BERNICK: And that is the only information that
22 was provided?

23 MR. MULLADY: Correct.

24 A If that's the only thing a patient says, it's anecdotal.

25 Q Thank you.

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1 MR. MULLADY: That's all I have for the witness.

2 Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bernick, are you going to
4 have redirect?

5 MR. BERNICK: I will.

6 THE COURT: How long?

7 MR. BERNICK: Probably around 15, 20 minutes max.

8 THE COURT: Why don't you do it and then we'll take a
9 lunch break?

10 MR. BERNICK: If I could ask it's just going to take
11 time to get things together. I know it will go more quickly if
12 we take a lunch break.

13 THE COURT: All right. We'll recess until 1:30

14 MR. BERNICK: Is there anybody else that has --

15 MR. FINCH: Your Honor, does the rule on witnesses
16 apply in Delaware? I would ask that the witness not be allowed
17 to consult.

18 THE COURT: Oh yes, Doctor, you are not allowed to
19 consult with counsel concerning your testimony during the lunch
20 recess. All right. We'll be in recess until 1:30.

21 (Lunch Break)

22 THE COURT: You are still under oath, Dr. Weill. Mr.
23 Bernick.

24 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. BERNICK:

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1 Q If we could show TJ -- 2125. If we took a look at this
2 fundamental slide that posed the issue that you framed for us,
3 Dr. Weill, which is does asbestos exposure alone without
4 asbestosis cause lung cancer. I want to deal with a couple of
5 the studies that were discussed with you on cross examination
6 to see how it is that they fit in. In fact what I might do is
7 if I could switch over to the elmo a second and use a hard copy
8 of the same document. So the question -- it should be on. Is
9 there any reason why it's not? No it looks to be on but I
10 don't get anything here. Nothing like rebooting. Rebooting
11 solves all the problems in the world, right.

12 So where -- the two questions that you posed or the
13 question that you posed was is asbestos exposure alone tied to
14 lung cancer or must there be asbestosis or put differently,
15 without asbestosis that is with asbestos exposure alone do you
16 get lung cancer? Is that a correct statement of the question?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Now you talked about two basic studies. There was the
19 Selikoff study or the insulators. Where do I put the
20 insulators if I want to ask the question what did the
21 insulators tell me about?

22 A So on this slide, this would be Category 1 that there is
23 only asbestos exposure alone.

24 Q For the insulators?

25 A For the insulators.

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1 Q But then what about when you get to the insulators as
2 updated by the Kipen work?

3 A If you then follow the Kipen work and get pathologic
4 information as in Kipen you see that the asbestosics were at
5 higher risk in that cohort for lung cancer.

6 Q Now once you know that from Kipen, where does the cohort
7 belong? Does this cohort tell us about what happens for lung
8 cancer with asbestos alone? Asbestos exposure alone or is this
9 a cohort that tells us about workers who have asbestosis as
10 well?

11 A Once you have Kipen it's asbestosis.

12 Q So we put the insulators over here. But through the
13 insulators can you find out about asbestos exposure alone?
14 That is now with the benefit of Kipen, is there any way to go
15 back to the insulators and figure out if asbestos alone is
16 enough to get you there?

17 A No. There's no way to figure that out.

18 Q Now let's talk about the Hughes Weill study. Where does
19 the Hughes Weill study fit in?

20 A That would be in the category that shows an arrow between
21 asbestosis and lung cancer.

22 Q Okay. And this is now the asbestos cement workers?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. Does that same study though also give us
25 information about asbestos exposure alone, that is without

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1 asbestosis?

2 A It does.

3 Q And on the basis of the asbestos cement workers, is that
4 what then leads you to answer the question here yes and the
5 question that is asbestos alone no?

6 A Correct.

7 Q Now I want to ask you about a different study that was put
8 to you on cross examination which is the Per Gustovson study.

9 Are you familiar generally with this study?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And I've got a copy here in case you need to make
12 reference to it. But in this study is there anywhere in this
13 study that there is sufficient specificity in the data to
14 enable us to answer the question of whether asbestosis is tied
15 to lung cancer?

16 A No.

17 MR. FINCH: Objection leading.

18 Q You tell me if that study belongs number 2, number 1 or
19 actually someplace else.

20 A No, it belongs in number 1. It's an asbestos expose
21 cohort and that's the information you have in that study.

22 Q On the basis of that study though can you tell whether
23 it's asbestos exposure alone or whether there is also
24 asbestosis?

25 A No.

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1 MR. FINCH: Objection, leading.

2 Q Now if we have -- if this is a situation where there is
3 high asbestos exposure or just say asbestos exposure. In that
4 case it's low. Asbestos exposure and asbestosis, both at the
5 same time, but all that's being reported is the asbestos
6 exposure. First of all, is that what's going on in that study?

7 MR. FINCH: Objection. Leading.

8 THE COURT: It is leading Mr. Bernick. You are going
9 to have to --

10 MR. BERNICK: Well I'm just trying -- it's really
11 foundational to another question.

12 Q I'll put it to you very simply. Tell us whether or not
13 you can find out from that study whether or not the people in
14 that study also had asbestosis?

15 A There's no information in that study on that point.

16 Q On the basis of that study, is it possible to test or to
17 answer with specificity the question that you have posed here?

18 A No.

19 Q Is that study unique that way or is that also true of
20 other studies?

21 A Also true of other studies.

22 Q Now Mr. Mullady made a little diagram. He said --

23 MR. MULLADY: Objection to little.

24 Q Okay, we'll blow it up real big. GC-2140 and he said well
25 isn't it true that where you have asbestos exposure you have a

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1 risk of asbestos? And you do this one here and you say well
2 yeah, there are a certain number of people who have asbestos
3 exposure, get asbestosis and a certain number of people with
4 asbestosis on your theory get lung cancer. You said that's
5 true.

6 Now does this idea that is because you can't get
7 asbestosis without asbestos and because with asbestos you may
8 get lung cancer, does that tell you the answer to the question
9 at all about whether asbestos exposure alone and the absence of
10 asbestos contributes to or has associated with it a risk of
11 lung cancer?

12 A No.

13 Q Tell us why not?

14 A Because remember as I pointed out in the response to that
15 question there is another arrow that has to lead off into the
16 no category. In other words those that were asbestos exposed
17 but did not develop asbestosis. So there is a yes and a no
18 leading from asbestos exposure alone.

19 Q Therefore in order to answer this question, this direct
20 that is what about the people who have asbestos exposure as a
21 group, do they have an increased risk of lung cancer, that is
22 asbestos alone --

23 MR. FINCH: Objection leading.

24 MR. MULLADY: I didn't ask the question yet.

25 Q I said in order to answer the question, tell us what you

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1 have to do?

2 A Without the presence or the absence of asbestosis and
3 information on that you are not able to say.

4 Q Now turning back to 2142 I want to tee up this question.
5 If we go back to the period of time when asbestosis the
6 criteria for asbestosis were narrower in the group of people
7 called true asbestotics were narrower, a narrower group of
8 people. Was there or was there not in fact controversy based
9 upon science as to whether having that asbestosis, that
10 stricter asbestosis, was a prerequisite for getting lung cancer
11 due to asbestos?

12 A There was some controversy on that point.

13 Q Now that the definition of asbestosis has been expanded to
14 include as you've indicated anyone who demonstrates actual
15 physical evidence of any impact on the lung per se, with that
16 broad definition, tell me whether there is significant science
17 that says only thing that is clear is a history of exposure.
18 No objective evidence of impact on the lung and there is still
19 a risk of lung cancer. Tell me is there a large body of
20 sciences out there that says that?

21 MR. FINCH: Objection. Leading, compound.

22 THE COURT: It is Mr. Bernick.

23 Q In your own words, I want to frame the issue. Now that
24 we're solely taking the people who cannot qualify for asbestos
25 because they have no objective measurements of any effect on

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1 the lung for asbestos. Focusing on those people, tell me in
2 your own words the state of whether there is lots of science,
3 little science that actually links those kinds of people to
4 lung cancer.

5 MR. FINCH: Objection. Compound and leading.

6 MR. BERNICK: No.

7 THE COURT: It's not leading and it's not compound
8 enough. This witness can answer the question.

9 A I think the reliable scientific evidence demonstrates that
10 without the presence of asbestosis you cannot attribute lung
11 cancer to asbestos exposure. So on the question of just the
12 asbestos exposed patients without information either pathologic
13 or radiographic, you can't say. You just can't determine
14 whether or not you have an asbestos contributable lung cancer.

15 Q Okay. Are you aware of any kind of consensus statement
16 that says no, there really is science that robustly
17 demonstrates that relationship? Have you heard of any such
18 consensus statement?

19 MR. FINCH: Objection, leading.

20 A No.

21 THE COURT: No, it's are you aware. That's not
22 leading.

23 Q Has any such study been pointed out to you here today?

24 A No.

25 Q Let's talk about HRCT. HRCT I think you talked about as

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1 being, and Mr. Finch I believe read to you some portions of the
2 2004 ATS statement with regard to the diagnosis of non-
3 malignant disease. In the greater sensitivity, I would like to
4 see in fact if I can dig that out at some point. But tell me
5 whether the -- today there is anything either an ATS
6 recommendation or some other document that sets out the grading
7 to follow in using an HRCT that runs parallel to the grading
8 that you have for x-rays into the ILO?

9 A No, that's never been done.

10 Q Is that -- I just want to direct your attention -- turning
11 to GX-0274 in evidence. I want to direct your attention to this
12 language where it says a proposal zoom -- a proposal has been
13 put forward for a classification system analogous to that of
14 the ILO system for plain chest radiograms. But none has been
15 widely adopted. Do you see that statement there in the more
16 current ATS statement?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q Absence such a grading system, is there a way to use HRCT
19 to do the kind of epidemiological study that was done of the
20 cement workers?

21 A No, not in my opinion.

22 Q What about pathology? Is pathology something that was
23 available to be used to do the kind of epidemiological analysis
24 that was done of the asbestos cement workers?

25 A No, it wasn't available.

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1 Q Based upon the currently available technology of the fact
2 that there is now currently available technology for HRCT but
3 with no classification system or pathology, does that in any
4 way diminish the significance or reliability of the findings
5 that were made in the asbestos cement study?

6 A No.

7 Q I want you to assume that there was a more sensitive
8 technique that was available to do the work that was done in
9 the asbestos cement study. You know, more sensitive, could
10 pick up asbestos more readily and you could classify it and do
11 everything that you wanted to rate. And that the result of
12 that was that more asbestosis was found in that study than was
13 picked up by the x-ray reads. Would that necessarily -- would
14 that have had any necessary effect one way or another on the
15 outcome of that study?

16 MR. FINCH: Objection. Leading.

17 A It likely would have had an effect --

18 MR. BERNICK: Well wait.

19 Q Would it have had an effect one way or another --

20 THE COURT: No, overruled.

21 A It likely would have had an effect but not in a
22 predictable way.

23 Q And what do you mean by that?

24 A Well, anytime you employ a more sensitive test to include
25 more people in the possibility of having disease, you're going

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1 to change the dynamics of the study. So when doing that you
2 can't really predict how the study is going to come out.
3 You've changed diagnostic tools, particularly one that's much
4 more sensitive, as in the case of HRCT, and you'll likely
5 change results in some unpredictable way.

6 Q Well, but differently. If radiograms, or reading x-rays,
7 is less precise, does that fact give a bias one way or another
8 in the outcome of the Asbestos Networker study?

9 A No.

10 Q If -- for Dr. Henry's study he looked at the x-rays and
11 weather -- which of the x-rays were found to comply with the
12 standards and which not. In aid of that issue, would pathology
13 -- using pathology had fit into his study?

14 A No.

15 Q Mr. Mullady asked you a bunch of questions about this
16 particular language that appears as part of GX0590, which was
17 not in evidence but was referred to. He said, "Do you see
18 where it says, 'The current study is the latest in the emerging
19 body of evidence supporting the view that asbestosis is a long
20 carcinogen because of its ability to cause lung fibrosis;
21 nevertheless, further results in support of these findings are
22 necessary before a firm conclusion concerning such a mechanism
23 can be found?'" Do you remember being asked a whole bunch of
24 questions about that?

25 A Yes, I do.

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1 Q Does that statement in some fashion diminish the analysis
2 of data that was set forth in this study?

3 A No. As I mentioned, this study speaks to the epidemiology
4 regarding causation. The mechanism, or the biologic factors
5 taking place, is an entirely different question.

6 Q I also want to go on and say -- do you see where he goes
7 on to say, "Finally, these data may provide further evidence to
8 support the common practice of attributing lung cancer to
9 exposure to asbestos only if asbestosis is also present.
10 Otherwise, these tumors are, in most instances, due to
11 cigarette smoking." Do you see that statement?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Where you have asbestos exposure alone, no asbestosis --
14 I'm now pointing to G12140 -- and you have smoking, so asbestos
15 exposure alone and smoking and a case of lung cancer, tell me,
16 you know, just how -- tell me the significance of the presence
17 of smoking as an explanation for the lung cancer?

18 A It would be very significant.

19 Q How strong is that risk factor?

20 A Cigarette smoke is a very strong carcinogen, and even with
21 say a 20 pack year cigarette smoking history, which would be
22 considered I think a moderate smoking history, the risk of
23 developing lung cancer is 20 fold versus those who don't smoke.
24 So it's a very strong carcinogen.

25 Q You were asked a question about whether the ATS statement

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1 made any requirement about having multiple B-reads. Do you
2 recall that?

3 A Yes, I do.

4 Q Is there or is there not an independent requirement that
5 bears upon that question?

6 A I'm not sure I understand the question.

7 Q Is there a separate standard, a separate and independent
8 standard, that bears upon that question?

9 A Yes, the NIOSH.

10 Q And was that the basis of your testimony on direct?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. Finally, with regard to the questions that were
13 asked of you regarding exposure, I believe that Mr. Mullady
14 elicited testimony from you that when it comes to doing a
15 diagnosis, a careful analysis of all the facts that bear upon
16 the individual who's being diagnosed, that a careful analysis
17 is appropriate, and you agreed with him. Do you recall that?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Once you've done that careful analysis, that's once
20 the data is all there, does all of the data that may be
21 gathered carry equal weight?

22 A Not necessarily, no.

23 Q We showed -- or you showed the Court Exhibit 2160. What
24 relevance, if any, did this document have in talking about once
25 you've got the individual data what weight to give to different

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1 parts of it?

2 A Well, I think what the epidemiologic studies allow us to
3 do is develop a framework to evaluate the individual patient,
4 and so the epidemiologic studies are important to develop that
5 framework when used in combination with the anecdotal
6 information.

7 Q Okay. And is all of the -- I mean -- I think Your Honor
8 probably already understands well where this is going, so I'll
9 skip over it, and it's probably somewhat unnecessary to get
10 into this as well, but relating -- pertaining to Exhibit
11 ACC/FCR407, which was the questionnaire -- remember that Mr.
12 Mullady wanted to ask you a bunch of questions about it. I
13 just want you to focus on this whole page. Only assume that
14 this question is being asked, and he asks you, "Well,
15 essentially is that kind of limited information?" And you
16 agreed with him that it was. I now want you to look at the
17 rest of page where you have all these other categories, and
18 then for each job description you've got different job
19 descriptions, products, basis for identification, dates and
20 frequencies of exposure, occupation codes, industry codes, and
21 then a further column that's marked there relating to the kind
22 of exposure. I ask you the same question. Is this or is this
23 not the kind of information that you would want to have in
24 reaching an assessment about how important the exposure was?

25 A It is the kind of information you'd want.

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1 Q I now further want you to assume that there's industrial
2 hygiene data that on the basis of these answers enables an
3 industrial hygienist to specify what the exposures are so that
4 you can compare them to the epidemiological studies. With the
5 benefit of all of that information, what relevance is that --
6 what relevance, if any, does that have to performing a proper
7 differential diagnosis?

8 A It's very relevant.

9 MR. MULLADY: Objection, Your Honor. Objection. I
10 think we're now outside the scope of the cross. I didn't ask
11 him about industrial hygiene --

12 MR. BERNICK: Well, that's the whole point, is that
13 you excluded that from the question.

14 THE COURT: It seems to me that this is fair with
15 respect to the issue of what the impact of the anecdotal data
16 compared to the epidemiological studies and the comparison of
17 the two, which seems to be the thrust of both the direct and
18 the redirect, so -- or the cross, pardon me -- so I'm going to
19 let a little leeway, but --

20 MR. BERNICK: It's the last --

21 THE COURT: -- not too far, Mr. Bernick.

22 MR. BERNICK: Yes. Because I understand that Your
23 Honor probably well gets the drift of this. I just want to
24 make sure that the record is clear.

25 Q Where all of that is present, that is you have -- you have

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1 the ability to know what the person did, what their jobs are
2 and the industrial hygiene data that is associated with that,
3 at that point is it satisfactory to simply aim for a
4 qualitative assessment, or do you want to aim for more?

5 A You want to aim higher.

6 Q Okay. And if you can aim higher, what impact does that
7 have on the ability to conduct a meaningful differential
8 diagnosis, if any?

9 A It just raises your certainty about the type of asbestos
10 exposure the worker got.

11 MR. BERNICK: I have nothing further, Your Honor.

12 MR. FINCH: Brief recross, Your Honor?

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

14 RECROSS EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. FINCH:

16 Q Dr. Weill, do you still have the book that I gave you up
17 there?

18 A Yeah.

19 Q Okay. Could you turn to the Hughes-Weill study?

20 A Could you give me the number again?

21 Q It's Exhibit Number 628.

22 A I've got it.

23 Q And in that study the dividing point for asbestosis was
24 1/0, correct?

25 A That's right.

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1 Q So even though the ATS standard hadn't changed from 1/1 to
2 1/0, your father considered 1/0 sufficient to be asbestosis,
3 correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q All right. The Gustavsson study, that's Exhibit 331, Mr.
6 Bernick asked you some questions about that study on direct.
7 Do you recall that?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Could you turn to Page Ten Twenty of that study? It is
10 Exhibit Number ACC-331.

11 MR. FINCH: It's not in evidence, Your Honor. I just
12 used it with him on cross examination --

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. FINCH: -- and Mr. Bernick had some questions
15 about this on redirect.

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 Q Do you have Page Ten Twenty in front of you --

18 A Yes.

19 Q -- Dr. Weill?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And that shows estimates of exposure for these various
22 people --

23 A Yes.

24 Q -- in the top column and the relative risk for nonsmokers
25 and then -- compared to various people who smoke?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q See that?

3 A I do.

4 Q And what this shows is that for people with fiber
5 exposures of between 1 and 2.49 fiber years, their relative
6 risk -- even if they were never smokers, their relative risk of
7 getting lung cancer was 2.7, correct?

8 MR. BERNICK: I object. Your question assumes that
9 there was even more than one person who fit that category.

10 THE WITNESS: I think --

11 MR. BERNICK: Do you know that that's so?

12 A That's certainly what the table shows, and I can comment
13 further, though, regarding the confidence interval.

14 Q The current smokers, or people who were exposed to
15 asbestos at greater than two and a half fiber years, shows 40
16 times the risk of -- excuse me -- confidence intervals of 4.6
17 to 40 as compared to 6.7 and 16.6 for unexposed people?

18 A You're going to have to try again.

19 Q Yes, sure. In the current smokers, you've got people who
20 smoked from one to ten cigarettes a day. People who were never
21 exposed to asbestos, the relative risk of dying is 10.5. For
22 people who smoked greater than two and a half -- excuse me --
23 people who had more than two and a half fiber years of
24 exposure, the relative risk was 13.5, right?

25 A I see that.

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1 Q Okay. Would you agree with me that all of the exposures
2 shown on here, zero to .99, one to 2.49 and 2.5 are levels of
3 exposure unlikely to result in asbestosis?

4 MR. BERNICK: Well, number one, the question is
5 falsely framed because it's not 2.5 --

6 MR. FINCH: Your Honor, it's -- this is --

7 MR. BERNICK: I'm sorry --

8 MR. FINCH: -- seeking objection that is improper
9 under the rules.

10 MR. BERNICK: Okay. Object to form. It misreads the
11 document. If you're going to have a witness answer a question
12 concerning the document, it should be properly read. 2.5 is
13 greater than or equal to, it's not --

14 THE COURT: The objection is that the statement does
15 not fairly -- the question does not fairly reflect the
16 information on the document, and that is sustained.

17 Q Okay. Would you agree with me that for fiber exposures of
18 one to 2.49, that's unlikely to result in asbestosis?

19 MR. BERNICK: Objection; lack of foundation.

20 A If the --

21 THE COURT: Wait. Wait, doctor.

22 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.

23 THE COURT: This chart does not appear to relate to
24 asbestosis. It's relative risk of lung cancer, not
25 specifically asbestosis.

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1 MR. FINCH: That's my point, Your Honor. My point is
2 that these people have an increased risk of lung cancer even at
3 levels of exposure far less than what one would expect to
4 contract asbestos.

5 MR. BERNICK: You're --

6 THE COURT: Well, I don't know. The doctor was about
7 to explain some issues he has with respect to the confidence
8 intervals in looking at this chart. Perhaps if you want him to
9 explain that answer, then maybe we can get to this question.
10 Otherwise, I'm not sure that that fairly reflects this issue.
11 A First of all, the confidence intervals, so you mentioned
12 in the never smoking group the exposure categories that
13 included one as part of the confidence interval, and so from a
14 statistician's point of view that means that the increase in
15 relative risk may be or may not be due to chance. So that's
16 one statistical point that I have to make. Secondly, you had
17 questions regarding the likelihood of those exposure levels
18 causing asbestos or not, and that would depend a lot on fiber
19 type.

20 Q Okay. Well, you -- so you would agree with me the level
21 of exposure necessary to cause asbestosis depends on the
22 individual person's circumstances?

23 MR. BERNICK: Your Honor, at this point, the witness
24 is now being made into a witness on what the epidemiology is of
25 asbestosis, and that's being done in order to derive an

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1 inference from this article. Fair -- if he wants to do it,
2 fine, but then I'm going to have a short unfortunately
3 re-redirect --

4 MR. FINCH: No, that --

5 MR. BERNICK: -- based upon this article because that
6 goes beyond the scope of anything that I've asked him.

7 MR. FINCH: All right. I'll --

8 THE COURT: It does.

9 MR. FINCH: I'll withdraw the question, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: This is recross, so you're limited to
11 what was asked on redirect, and this was not.

12 MR. FINCH: Okay. Fine, Your Honor.

13 Q One final question on the Hughes-Weill study, pathology
14 was not available for those workers, but pathology was a tool
15 that was available to doctors in the 1990s to diagnose
16 asbestosis, correct?

17 A That's correct.

18 MR. FINCH: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. MULLADY: I have nothing.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Mullady?

21 MR. MULLADY: No, thank you.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Bernick?

23 MR. BERNICK: No, thank you.

24 THE COURT: Doctor, you're excused. Thank you.

25 MR. FINCH: Your Honor, my partner Mr. Bailor is

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1 going to handle the cross examination of this witness.

2 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Here, you can just take my
3 seat. Do you need to -- I'm going to bounce down the line
4 here.

5 MR. McMILLAN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Scott
6 McMillan for W. R. Grace. We would like to call our next
7 witness, Dr. Daniel Henry.

8 THE COURT: Dr. Henry?

9 THE CLERK: Stand and raise your right hand.

10 DANIEL HENRY, DEBTORS' WITNESS, SWORN

11 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. McMILLAN:

13 Q Good afternoon, Dr. Henry. Could you please state your
14 full name for the record?

15 A Daniel Henry.

16 Q What is your occupation, Dr. Henry?

17 A I'm a chest radiologist.

18 Q And in general terms, what have you been asked to testify
19 about here today?

20 A A study that I performed on a group of claimants that
21 espoused that they apparently suffered from a malignancy and
22 had radiographic evidence of asbestos exposure.

23 MR. BAILOR: Your Honor, we would object on relevancy
24 grounds.

25 MR. McMILLAN: Your Honor, the study that Dr. Henry

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1 did was based upon two orders that this Court entered in early
2 2007 ordering the claimants to turn over radiographic evidence
3 they had in support of their lung cancer and other cancer
4 claims explicitly for the purpose of allowing us to conduct an
5 analysis of that. Indeed, if these are claimants who state
6 that they are relying upon this radiographic evidence in
7 support of their claim of lung or other cancer, it is entirely
8 within our purview to have our experts evaluate that
9 radiographic evidence and to present testimony to the Court on
10 the validity of that evidence.

11 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to overrule the objection
12 for now. I'm going to take all of this evidence under
13 advisement. I am going to see -- as I indicated earlier in the
14 case, although I'm not sure I ever made rulings on the record,
15 that I am taking all expert opinions under advisement in the
16 case and I will rule on Daubert issues at the conclusion, and
17 so this witness, as all other witnesses, will be accepted --
18 the testimony will be accepted in that view. Go ahead.

19 MR. McMILLAN: Thank you.

20 Q Dr. Henry, have you prepared any graphics in anticipation
21 of testifying today?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q Would it assist you in your presentation today to use
24 those graphics?

25 A Yes, sir.

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1 MR. BAILOR: Counsel, may I have a copy of the
2 graphics?

3 MR. McMILLAN: Oh, I'm sorry. I meant to give those
4 out.

5 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Thanks very much.

6 MR. McMILLAN: Could I have GG-2066, please?

7 Q Dr. Henry, could you please tell us about your education
8 and medical training briefly?

9 A I'm a graduate of the St. Louis University School of
10 Medicine. After an internship, I completed my training in
11 radiology at the Medical College of Virginia, or Virginia
12 Commonwealth University, in 1975.

13 Q Could you pull the microphone --

14 MR. BAILOR: Excuse me. Could we have the doctor
15 pull the microphone a little closer? I'm having a little
16 trouble hearing him.

17 THE COURT: We'll try. Did you -- do you need that
18 repeated? He was explaining his educational background.

19 MR. BAILOR: I don't think we need that repeated.

20 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

21 Q Doctor, after you completed your residency, where did you
22 go to work?

23 A I was -- joined the United States Air Force where I was
24 accorded the rank of major and assigned to Wilford Hall Medical
25 Center as a teaching instructor to teach radiology residents in

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1 the U.S. Air Force.

2 MR. McMILLAN: Could we have the next slide, please,
3 which is GG-2067. Dr. Henry, after you left the Air Force,
4 where did you go to work?

5 A I assumed a position at the -- in the department of
6 radiology at the Medical College of Virginia.

7 Q And is that the institution at which you currently work
8 today?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q What is your current position at that institution?

11 A I'm section chief of the section of thoracic imaging.

12 Q And do you also hold any faculty appointments?

13 A I'm associate professor of radiology and medicine in the
14 School of Medicine at VCU.

15 Q Have you been employed at the VCU School of Medicine
16 continually since about 1977 till the present?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Could you please tell us which professional organizations
19 you are a member of?

20 A I'm a member of the Radiological Society of North America,
21 the Society of Thoracic Radiology, and I'm a member and fellow
22 in the American College of Radiology.

23 Q What is the American College of Radiology?

24 A It's an organization that's devoted to the education and
25 other benefits of its members in the process of radiology.

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1 Q Now, I see that you say that you are a member and fellow.
2 What does it take to become a fellow of the American College of
3 Radiology?

4 A Well, it's somewhat of a secret process, but you're
5 usually elected to this post following some extraordinary
6 contribution to the welfare or benefit of the organization.

7 Q Have you served on any committees or done other work for
8 the benefit of the American College of Radiology?

9 A Yes. I was invited to join the American College of
10 Radiology Committee on Pneumoconiosis in 1990, based upon my
11 activities as a B-reader and my teaching abilities.

12 MR. McMILLAN: Could we turn to the next slide, GG-
13 2068, please? I see you've got it up there.

14 Q You used a term a moment ago which is "pneumoconiosis."
15 Could you please explain what pneumoconiosis is?

16 A Pneumoconiosis is a medical term that is used to describe
17 the diseases related to the inhalation of organic or inorganic
18 dust.

19 Q And is asbestos one of the dusts that can cause
20 pneumoconioses?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q I believe a moment ago you said that you were on a
23 committee or a task force that related to pneumoconiosis for
24 the ACR. What did you do on that committee?

25 A I was an instructor. The American College of Radiology

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1 provides courses for those wishing to become certified as a
2 B-reader or re-certified as a B-reader.

3 Q And have you done any other work besides serving on that
4 committee for the ACR?

5 A Well, I -- currently I'm the chairman of that committee,
6 but I also advise NIOSH on their teaching efforts as it relates
7 to pneumoconiosis and other activities that relate to their
8 home-study syllabus, the exams themselves and so forth.

9 Q What is NIOSH?

10 A NIOSH is the National Institute of Occupational Safety and
11 Health.

12 Q And what role do they play with regard to B-readers and
13 the B-reader course that you are teaching?

14 A They currently administer the examination and they run
15 surveillance programs around the country for patients who
16 perhaps might be exposed and might have pneumoconiosis.

17 Q Do you participate in any of those surveillance programs?

18 A Yes, sir, I do.

19 Q What do you do?

20 A I interpret films for them. I also review their teaching
21 materials. Currently we have a project that is ongoing as we
22 transition from analog, or basically plastic chest x-rays, to
23 the digital arena, which is much more common in today's
24 healthcare field.

25 Q So are you working with NIOSH in the transition to digital

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1 x-rays as they relate to the B-reader program and the
2 evaluation of pneumoconioses?

3 A The B-reader program, the evaluation of potential
4 claimants, as well as the instructional process.

5 Q Do you do any work for the Virginia Worker's Compensation
6 Commission?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What do you do?

9 A We evaluate radiographs of individuals who bring claims to
10 the Commission.

11 Q And is the work that you do for the Commission itself?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Are you retained by any plaintiffs or defendants in front
14 of the Commission?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Doctor, as part of your medical practice, do you have
17 experience with asbestos-related diseases?

18 A Yes, I do.

19 MR. McMILLAN: If we could have the next slide,
20 please, GG-2069.

21 Q Could you tell us a little bit about your experience with
22 asbestos-related diseases?

23 A My practice is dedicated entirely to thoracic imaging, or
24 chest radiology, and, in the course of the 30-year experience
25 that I've had, we encounter patients who had asbestos

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1 exposure.

2 Q And I may not have asked you this previously. Do you have
3 a certain specialty within the field of radiology?

4 A Just thoracic imaging, or chest radiology.

5 Q Do you have any educational duties or responsibilities
6 that relate to asbestos-related diseases?

7 A Well, basically I'm an instructor or teacher to -- as a
8 physician in the school of medicine to radiology residents and
9 pulmonary fellows on all aspects of thoracic imaging, including
10 asbestos-related disorders.

11 Q Have you ever published in peer reviewed literature
12 relating to pneumoconiosis or the ILO Classification System?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What have you published?

15 A I was invited to write an article about five years ago on
16 the role of the ILO system and its current application in this
17 arena.

18 MR. McMILLAN: Your Honor, at this point I would
19 tender Dr. Henry as an expert in thoracic radiology.

20 MR. BAILOR: No objection, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: He may offer an expert opinion in the
22 field of thoracic radiology.

23 MR. McMILLAN: Could we turn to GG-2070, please?

24 Q Dr. Henry, does the chest x-ray play an important role in
25 thoracic radiology?

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1 A The chest radiograph is a ubiquitous study and it's, for
2 all intents and purposes, the currency of healthcare. It's a
3 very commonly ordered examination, commonly performed.

4 Q Is that one of the techniques or pieces of medical
5 evidence that you deal with on a daily basis?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q What role does the x-ray play in the diagnosis of
8 asbestos-related disease?

9 A Certain entities which could afflict the lung itself, the
10 lung tissue itself, or the pleural surfaces, as well as
11 malignancies associated with asbestos could be depicted on a
12 chest x-ray.

13 Q I want to talk to you briefly about the standards for
14 reviewing and classifying x-rays.

15 MR. McMILLAN: If I could have the next slide, which
16 is GG-2071?

17 Q Doctor, what is the International Labor Organization?

18 A The ILO, or the International Labor Organization, is an
19 arm of the United Nations which promotes for many years, or has
20 promoted for many years, health and safety in the workplace.

21 Q And has the ILO issued any guidelines on the
22 classification of chest radiographs?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Could you explain what they've issued to us?

25 A The ILO has produced written guidelines for probably four

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